

III. REMARKS

A. Summary of the Amendments

The present application now contains 12 claims.

Claims 16-28 previously submitted have been renumbered as claims 15-27. The Applicant thanks the Examiner for bringing to his attention the discrepancy in the claim numbering.

Claim 15 has been amended to incorporate therein the subject matter formerly in claim 16.

Claim 16 has been cancelled.

Claims 17-24 have been amended to correct the claim dependencies.

Claims 25, 26 and 27 have been amended to clarify the subject matter being claimed.

The Applicant respectfully submits that the present amendment introduces no new matter to the present application.

B. Summary of the Rejections and Reply

In the Office Action, the examiner rejected claims 15, 17 and 22-27 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent no. 5,568,526 (hereafter to be referred to as Ferraiolo).

In the Office Action, the examiner also objected to claims 16 and 18-21 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but indicated that these claims would be

allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The applicant disagrees with the Examiner's rejection with respect to claims 15, 17 and 22-27 and submits that the subject matter of these claims is new and non-obvious in light of the document cited by the Examiner. However, in the interest of moving the case along to allowance, the Applicant has amended the claims in order to incorporate in the independent claims the feature described in former claim 16 (now cancelled). The applicant reserves the right to pursue the subject matter of former claims 15, 17 and 22-27 in a continuation application to be filed at a later date prior to issuance to patent of the present patent application.

Claims 15-24

Claim 15 has been amended to incorporate therein the subject matter of former claim 16. The scope of claim 15, as amended, corresponds to former claim 16 rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. On page 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that such a claim would be allowable. Consequently, the Applicant respectfully submits that the subject matter of claim 15, as amended, is in allowable form.

Claims 17-24 depend directly or indirectly from claim 15 and, as such, incorporate by reference all its limitations. Consequently, the Applicant respectfully submits that the subject matter of claims 17-24 is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by the art cited by the Examiner.

Claim 25

Claim 25, as amended, includes the feature of a processing unit operative to:

“process said clock information and said data control information for generating a clock and control signal, [...], ***said clock and control signal***”

being characterized by first and second edges, said first edge having fixed phase and said second edge being phase-modulated;”

The Applicant submits that this feature is neither taught nor suggested by Ferraiolo. As such, claim 25, as amended, is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by Ferraiolo.

Claim 26

Claim 26, as amended, includes the feature of:

“a second input for receiving a clock and control signal over the clocking and control channel, said clock and control signal said clock and control signal having high and low times in units equal to one said bit time, **said clock and control signal being characterized by first and second edges, said first edge having fixed phase and said second edge being phase-modulated;**”

The Applicant submits that this feature is neither taught nor suggested by Ferraiolo. As such, claim 26, as amended, is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by Ferraiolo.

Claim 27

Claim 27, as amended, includes the feature of:

“encoder means [...] operative to [...] process said clock information and said data control information for generating a clock and control signal, [...], **said clock and control signal being characterized by first and second edges, said first edge having fixed phase and said second edge being phase-modulated;**”

The Applicant submits that this feature is neither taught nor suggested by Ferraiolo. As such, claim 27, as amended, is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by Ferraiolo.

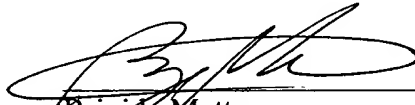
III. CONCLUSION

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that claims 15 and 17-27 are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections and objections with regards to claims 15 and 17-27 is requested. Allowance of claims 15 and 17-27 at an early date is solicited.

If the claims of the application are not considered to be in full condition for allowance, for any reason, the Applicant respectfully requests the constructive assistance and suggestions of the Examiner in drafting one or more acceptable claims or in making constructive suggestions so that the application can be placed in allowable condition as soon as possible and without the need for further proceedings.

Respectfully submitted,

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